

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] - BRIEFING OF HPSCI
MEMBERS OF CODEL MOAKLEY

1. ACTION REQUESTED: NONE, FYI.

2. [REDACTED] BRIEFED THE FIVE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TRAVELLING WITH THE MOAKLEY CODEL WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE HPSCI (REPRESENTATIVES SHUSTER, DORNAN, KENNELLY, MCHUGH AND GLICKMAN) AND HPSCI STAFFERS O'NEILL AND DUPART DURING RUSHED 40 MINUTE SESSION AFTERNOON 12 FEBRUARY 1990. REPRESENTATIVE SHUSTER CHAIRED THE SESSION AND ALLOTTED EACH MEMBER ONLY A FEW MINUTES TO PURSUE TOPICS OF HIS/HER INTEREST. THE QUESTIONS COVERED AREAS AND SUBJECTS EXPECTED AND WERE NON-CONFRONTATIONAL. ALL PARTIES APPEARED TO BE SATISFIED WITH THE ANSWERS PROVIDED [REDACTED] AND NO ISSUES RAISED WERE SKIRTED OR LEFT HANGING. EACH MEMBER CAME UP INDIVIDUALLY AND THANKED [REDACTED] AND EACH ECHOED REPRESENTATIVE GLICKMAN'S COMMENT TO "KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK".

3. SPECIFICALLY, THE MEMBERS RAISED THE KILLING OF THE JESUITS, AND THE RESULTING INVESTIGATION AND ASKED OUR REACTION TO THE SPECULATION THAT COLONEL BENAVIDES DID NOT ACT ALONE. WE BRIEFED ON THE HECTIC, ALMOST HYSTERICAL ATMOSPHERE IN THE CITY AT THE TIME, THE PARALYSIS OF BENAVIDES' SON, THE PRESSURE ON BENAVIDES TO GET HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY UNDER CONTROL, AND THE GENERAL PERCEPTION OF MOST MILITARY OFFICERS THAT THE JESUITS WERE THE INTELLECTUAL LEADERS OF THE FMLN. SEVERAL MINUTES WERE TAKEN ON THE LATTER ISSUE, THE PERCEIVED AND ACTUAL INVOLVEMENT WITH THE FMLN OF UCA AND THE JESUITS, AND ON WHETHER THERE IS PERSECUTION OF THE CHURCH AND RELIGIOUS PERSONS IN GENERAL. THE REPRESENTATIVES TOOK RATHER EXTENSIVE NOTES, ASKED GOOD QUESTIONS, AND APPEARED TO BE SATISFIED THAT THE MILITARY SEARCHES AND ARRESTS WERE TARGETED AGAINST SPECIFIC INSTALLATIONS AND PERSONS AND WERE BASED UPON INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AND PREVIOUS INFORMATION OF DIRECT SUPPORT TO THE FMLN; THEY WERE NOT PART OF A GENERAL HARASSMENT OF THE CHURCH AND RELIGIOUS ORDERS. THE MEMBERS ALSO ASKED ABOUT D'AUBUISSON'S POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT. [REDACTED] WE REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NO FURTHER INFORMATION DEVELOPED, AND NO INDICATION THAT D'AUBUISSON WAS IN ANY WAY INVOLVED.

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[REDACTED]

4. THE HPSCI CODEL ALSO WAS INTERESTED IN OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE RECENT FMLN OFFENSIVE AND IN THE STATE OF PLAY OF NEGOTIATIONS. WE PROVIDED A GENERAL DI BRIEF ON BOTH THESE MATTERS, AND THE COMMENTS AND INTERCHANGES INDICATED THAT THE MEMBERS AND STAFF WERE SATISFIED WITH OUR ANSWERS. JENNIFER CASOLO WAS ONLY MENTIONED IN PASSING, AND INTERESTINGLY WE GOT THE CLEAR IMPRESSION SHE IS NO LONGER THE DARLING OF THE LEFT. MANY MEMBERS EXPRESSED DOUBT AS TO HER INNOCENCE, AND ALL AGREED THAT HER CREDIBILITY WAS SERIOUSLY IN QUESTION.

5. AT REPRESENTATIVE SHUSTER'S REQUEST, LOUIS DUPART ARRANGED A PRIVATE MEETING [REDACTED] EVENING 12 FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS THE CASOLO CASE AND MORE DETAILS OF THE OFFENSIVE AND PRESENT CAPABILITIES OF THE FMLN. SHUSTER AND DUPART DESCRIBED THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF THE VIDEO TAPE MADE AT THE SCENE OF THE ARMS DISCOVERY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WE DECLINED TO COMMENT ON REPORTS THAT CASOLO'S U.S. ACTIVITIES ARE BEING GUIDED BY FMLN FRONT ORGANIZATIONS. THE REST OF THE SESSION WAS GIVEN OVER THE DISCUSSION OF THE STATUS OF THE INSURGENCY AND FUTURE SCENARIOS.

6. AT NO TIME DID ANY OF THE HPSCI MEMBERS OR STAFFERS DEMONSTRATE PRECONCEIVED BIASES OR SUSPICIONS OF WRONG-DOING OR IMPROPRIETY. ON THE CONTRARY, THE QUESTIONS ASKED WERE NEUTRAL IN TONE, AND THE REACTIONS TO [REDACTED] COMMENTS POSITIVE AND COMPLIMENTARY. GLICKMAN, MCHUGH AND KENNELLY WERE GRACIOUS AND NON-CONFRONTATIONAL, SHUSTER AND DORNAN OPENLY SUPPORTIVE AND ALL APPEARED SATISFIED WITH OUR BRIEFING. THEY ALL LAMENTED THAT THEIR SCHEDULE DID NOT PERMIT MORE TIME TO PURSUE THE SUBJECTS OF THEIR INTEREST IN MORE DEPTH, BUT WE DID NOT GET THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY QUESTIONED IN ANY WAY OUR PROFESSIONALISM OR INTEGRITY. ALL IN ALL, A GOOD VISIT.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]